

No additional fee is required.

In the event a fee is required or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 CFR 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 CFR 1.135. The fee under 37 CFR 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 50-2215.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 10, 18, 26 and 30 pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(c)(i) as set forth herein. Entry is respectfully requested. A version with markings to show the changes made pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(c)(ii) is attached hereto as Appendix A.

The optional complete set of "clean" claims pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(c)(3) is attached hereto as Appendix B.

10. (Twice Amended) An electronic trading system comprising:

CI
means for matching anonymous bids and offers entered into the system by counterparties and for executing matched bids and offers to complete a deal, the deal execution means comprising means for checking the matched deal against stored limits of bilateral credit between the counterparties and means for preventing deal execution if one

or both parties has insufficient credit, the deal execution means further identifying the counterparties to each other on completion of the deal; and

C1 means for permitting a party to an executed deal to provide a non-anonymous offer or request for a further deal with the counterparty to the executed deal at the same price, the means for permitting including means for adjusting the counterparties credit limits with one another by an amount equal to the value of the deal.

18. (Amended) A method for trading in an anonymous trading network, the method comprising:

C2 performing an anonymous trade over the anonymous trading network between a first and second party;

identifying the first and second party to each other after the anonymous trade has been performed; and thereafter

permitting the first and second party to perform a conversational trade using the anonymous trading network.

26. (Amended) An anonymous trading system for trading assets between traders, the system comprising:

C3 a communications network;

a plurality of order input terminals coupled to the communications network, each order input terminal communicates with a respective trader and generates electronic order messages in response thereto; and

the communications network including at least one matching engine the matching engine, the matching engine executing anonymous deals between at least some of the traders based on bilateral credit between such traders, the matching engine further effectuating a first trade between a first and second trader, notifying the first and second trader of the respective identities of their counterparties, and, thereafter, when requested by

C³
at least one of the first and second traders, the matching engine effectuating a second trade between the first and second traders without regard to the bilateral credit between the first and second traders.

C⁴
30. (Amended) A method for trading assets between traders in an anonymous trading system, the system comprising a communications network, a plurality of order input terminals coupled to the communications network, each order input terminal effective to communicate with a respective trader and to generate electronic order messages in response thereto, the communications network including at least one matching engine;

the at least one matching engine being effective to execute deals between the traders based on bilateral credit between respective traders;

the method comprising:

effectuating a first trade between a first and a second trader when the bilateral credit between the first and second traders allow;

notifying the first and second trader of the respective identities of their counterparties; and thereafter,

when requested by at least one of the first and second traders, effectuating a second trade between the first and second traders without regard to the bilateral credit between the first and second traders.
